

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/521,209

Applicant(s)

HUNT, STEPHEN WILLIAM

Examiner

Art Unit

Van T. Trieu

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 25 January 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 10-26, 28-43, 45 and 46.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The application has been amended as follows: The amended specification filed on 25 January 2007 containing the phrase "disclosed" in the abstract. Therefore, a new abstract is provided herewith in a separate sheet.

Allowable Subject Matter

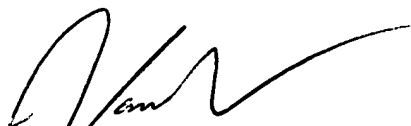
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: there are no prior arts teaching or suggesting of a security system for a retail environment including a merchandise display area, at least one exit or entrance; and at least one shopping trolley the system comprising a transmitter and a security device connected to the trolley, the security device comprising a receive-only wireless receiver incorporating a processor, wherein the receiver is adapted to receive wireless signals from the transmitter, the transmitter being located in file retail environment and wherein the processor is adapted to analyze the received wireless signals so as to determine at least a location of the device within the retail environment and to count a number of times the device passes a given transmitter, and wherein the transmitter is located at a predetermined choke point within the retail environment past which the shopping trolley must travel before leaving through the exit or entrance.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to primary examiner **Van Trieu** whose telephone number is (571) 272-2972. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Mr. Daniel Wu** can be reached on (571) 272-2964.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Van Trieu', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Van Trieu
Primary Examiner
Date: 3/8/07

ABSTRACT

A security system and method of providing security in a retail environment or the like, comprising shopping trolleys associated with the retail environment fitted with security devices having a receive-only wireless receiver and a processor. The receiver receiving wireless signals transmitted from one or more transmitters located at various locations around the retail environment. By analyzing the wireless signals as it passes thereby, the processor of the security device may determine a location and/or a direction of travel of a shopping trolley to which it is fitted. In addition, an alarm signal may be raised if a predetermined signal or sequence of signals is detected.